The Basics of Books : Foodie Style

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Summary: A guide for you (the aspiring writer)! I will take you through a step-by-step guide on the common troubles you have when writing or creating your book/fanfiction.

1. Introduction : Lollipop

Hello, my name is **BloodVesselsandBacks** or **Logical**, whichever you prefer, and I will be your guide on this important journey through being an author/designer/illustrator. I'm not an expert nor do I claim to be one. I am just like anyone of you: a writer trying to bring the best to my readers. The tips I'm about to give you are things I have found through my personal experience in writing.

I hope all of this helps you, even if a little bit. Don't take anything too personally if I'm insulting you or your writing style; this is a _learning __experience_ for all of us. In fact, if I _did _offend you, I'm probably doing my job right.

Love.

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><p>"The scariest moment is always just before you start."

>â€• Stephen King, On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft

2. Your Title : Bon Bon

Titles. Perhaps the most impactful part of a story. It is the first thing a reader sees and, in my opinion, the most important. Sounds crazy, doesn't it?

You're thinking, _"Are you crazy?! The most important part of a story is the story/characters! "_

That's arguable. It's like saying that the most important part of a shirt is the fabric. Or that the best part of a dog is its organs. It _is _important, but in a different way. You know that saying, _"It takes 20 more meetings to get rid of a first impression and even more to leave a lasting impression"_? The idea is similar.

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><p>1) To start, a title has to grasp the basics. Good grammar being one of them. If I see a title that isn't capitalized in the right places, I don't spare the story a second glance. It sounds harsh, but it's true. For example,

"He never knew" _"i was more Special Than i Thought"_ _"The Legend Of The Dragons"_

If you can pick out the mistakes in all of those titles, then perfect! This step does not apply to you. Otherwise...we have some work to do. A title must have a set of specific rules.

The beginning is always capitalized. The first word's first letter will _always _be capitalized. Helping words will remain _lowercase_ alwaysunless the first rule applies. Helping words being words like: _for, the, as, to, is, etc._ I is always capitalized. No matter where it is, as long as it is alone, it is capitalized like in the words:_ I, I'll, I've, I'd, etc. _(It saddens me that I even have to explain this)

*The only exception to these rules would be a stylistic choice. EX: "as the water flows", "air lives in ME". These titles would often be in a different font or there is a rational reason behind this.

These are pretty simple to follow so it shouldn't be hard to have a working title.

**2) **Now, the title itself has to be interesting. It should be vague, but also not completely meaningless. Let's work with one of those I used previously._"Air Lives in Me"_, is a good one. What I can gather from that title, without even reading the description yet, is that it is someone who has powers similar to that of an airbender. Another idea that comes to mind is that the character is free or it's a scientific thriller on how people need oxygen to breathe. Really, the possibilities are endless with a title like that one. The intrigue of wanting to know what it means, albeit subconsciously, draws you in.

Which book would you rather read, _"Air Lives in Me"_ or _"I'm an Airbender"_? Although the second one may appeal to a different group of people, it is scientifically proven that more people are drawn to more mysterious or unknown subjects than something that is plain to see. Just a fun fact .

**3) **Now, for the most common mistake, but a secretly important part of a title. _Length_.

_"Even the length?!" _You think to yourself.

Yes. A title shouldn't tell your whole story nor should it be boring, one-worded descriptions. Things like, _"Pretty"_, _"Shorts"_, or

_"Heart" _might deter a potential reader. _"Brave" _the Disney movie slips through the cracks of this rule since it is a good movie. More often than not will this not work, though. It is unattractive and bland in comparison to _"The Last Human"_. Doing this with a title is like bringing a meal without a plate; if it has no backbone, it cannot stand. (You can do this kind of title, but I really would just play it safe. I mean, unless you're a Disney movie writer, then go ahead.)

On the subject of length, there are the _unbearably_ long titles. It goes without saying that a title that looks like an empire state building lying on its side will be passed up. I look upon these titles with pity. They often reveal too much and are just ugly and a mouthful to say. Here's a tip to remember: If you can't say your title without having to take a breath, that's a no go.

"The Fourth of July on a Sunny September Day Was the Day We Fell in Love"

That's looking more like a sentence than a title if you ask me. Of course, it's okay to have a more lengthy title, but if your title is a summary of your story, then you may want to re-think it.

4) Final Verdict: A title should be like a bon-bon: sweet, delectable, have layers but not too many and have you interested as to what is inside.

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><p>In this chapter, hopefully, you've learned what it is like to take your first step into making your story come to life. I don't want to intimidate anyone, although I know all of this can be a bit scary, it is also exciting. I enjoy answering questions about anything and everything, so if you are curious about titles, I will answer your questions to the best of my abilities.

Love.

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><p>"The scariest moment is always just before you start."

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